

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented): A recording method comprising:

providing a recording head which projects a plurality of recording spots on a recording medium; and

recording, by said projected recording spots, a plurality of colors on the recording medium in both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction,

wherein said recording step includes offsetting, either upstream or downstream, in the sub-scanning direction, a start position for recording one of at least two colors relative to a start position for recording other one of said at least two colors in the sub-scanning direction, and

further wherein an amount of the offsets is within the range from one spot to the number defined such that total number of spots in the sub-scanning direction subtracts one spot.

2. (previously presented): A recording method comprising:

providing a recording head which projects a plurality of recording spots on a recording medium; and

recording, by said projected recording spots, a plurality of colors on the recording medium in both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, wherein said plurality of colors to be recorded are four colors black, cyan, magenta, and yellow,

wherein said step of recording includes offsetting, either upstream or downstream in the sub-scanning direction, a start position of each color, for recording by said recording head in the sub-scanning direction, the start position of one of said plurality of colors being different from the start positions of another colors of said plurality of colors within a range from one spot to a number defined such that total number of spots in the sub-scanning direction subtracts one spot.

3. (original): The recording method as claimed in 2, wherein a start position for recording a first one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by one spot, a start position for recording a second one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by two spots, and a start position for recording a third one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by three spots.

4. (previously presented): The recording method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said step of recording includes offsetting the projected spots, in correspondence with image data to be projected in the sub-scanning direction, by same amount in an opposite direction of the respective start position which is offset either downstream or upstream in the sub-scanning direction.

5. (previously presented): A recording apparatus comprising:  
a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record a plurality of colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording

elements; and a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 1.

6. (previously presented): A recording apparatus comprising

a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record a plurality of colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording elements; and

a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 2.

7. (previously presented): A recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record plurality of colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording elements; and

a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 3.

8. (previously presented): A recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record a plurality of colors on a

recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording elements;  
and

a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 4.

9. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein a start position for one of the plurality of colors is offset relative to each of the other plurality of colors.

10. (previously presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the offset between colors is less than 50 micrometers.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said recording head comprising a laser printer head.

12. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said recording head comprising at least one of a thermal head and a laser printer head.

13. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said recording head including multiple spot channels recording plural colors in a same place.

14. (new). The method of claim 1, wherein the two colors are respectively formed by a first set of spots and a second set of spots arranged in a common pattern, wherein the start positions of the two colors are formed by different positions of the first and second sets of spots arranged in the common pattern.

15. (new). The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two colors are formed by the same recording head.